

## The Great War—1232d Day

Germans Win  
Trench Lines  
Near YpresBig Gun Battle Rages From  
North Sea to the  
Swiss BorderHindenburg Blow  
Expected SoonTeutons Penetrate 300  
Yards of British Line  
in Ypres Salient

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The infantry battle on the Western front spread to-day to the Ypres salient, where for some time there has been comparative quiet. Southeast of Polygon Wood, between the Menin Road and the southern tip of the Passchendaele Ridge, the Germans attacked at dawn and succeeded in penetrating the advanced British trench line on a front of about 300 yards. Field Marshal Haig reports to-night. Elsewhere the attack broke down under the defenders' barrage.

Meanwhile, east of Bullecourt, in furious combats which continued throughout last night and to-day, Byng's troops improved their positions. The German War Office statement to-night asserts that the British were frustrated in an effort to recapture the trenches they lost in this sector, but according to Reuters' correspondent at British headquarters, trenches no longer exist on this front. Describing the fierce fighting of Wednesday in this region, the correspondent says:

Trenches Don't Exist  
"To say that the enemy is holding our trenches is incorrect, simply because there are no trenches left where his men dug their front lines. He has been digging violently under a ceaseless harassing fire to try to convert the shell holes and outflanked traverses into some sort of cover, but the value of the gain to him is about as a part of the significance of its loss to us. In other words, being on level ground and with no advantage of position or observation, the trifling readjustment of the line simply does not matter. "We took only a handful of prisoners because in the close grip of a struggle of this character it is usually a fight to the finish. Talks with prisoners give the idea that an attack of considerable magnitude was designed, but the promptness and intensity of our barrage prevented its development."

"There was expectation that a further attack had been planned for this morning (Thursday), and shortly before dawn a tremendous bombardment blasted us, but our guns immediately thundered back their reply and no infantry action followed."

Artillery Battle Grows  
Along the whole front, from the North Sea to the Swiss border, the artillery battle is raging with ever-growing intensity, and at scores of points in the line reconnoitering thrusts designed to gauge the enemy's strength are taking place. Though there is no evidence of where Hindenburg intends to strike his coming blow, there is every indication that it will fall before many days.

South of St. Quentin, the Berlin communiqué states, German "surprise mine-bombing" attacks caused heavy damage to the French positions. Local encounters are reported northeast of Arras, and in the region of the Somme, where it is not unlikely the great German blow will be launched.

Morant Says Deeds Will  
Follow Words in Fresh  
Drive on West Front

LONDON, Dec. 14.—A generally increased confidence in Germany, based on the Russian armistice and other obvious factors, is shown in extracts from the latest German newspapers telegraphed from Holland. Travellers arriving in Holland from Germany are quoted as saying that the German people are building great hopes on a great offensive in the West, which is regarded as certainly impending. Major Morant, a newspaper critic, predicting such a move, writes in the "Tageblatt": "Whenever Germany's supreme War Lord or Field Marshal von Hindenburg promised our Austro-Hungarian allies assistance against Russia's mighty forces, it has been promptly assembled, powerful blows delivered and the Russians driven back. We really do not need to doubt that this time also deeds will follow words."

The "Kölnische Volkszeitung" says that the only battlefield remaining in the Western front is the one in which the hands of the clock of destiny rapidly are advancing.

"Our enemies also recognize this," it adds, "and are crying out for American help. No matter. Justice is about to end the war."

The "Weser Zeitung" says: "Events show us distinctly, as in pictures, the path we must tread. Peace in the East and battle in the West until we have achieved there the foundation of the complete equality of British and German positions throughout the world over."

German Manufacturers  
Called to War Conference  
AMSTERDAM, Dec. 14.—The "Rheinische Westfälische Zeitung," of Essen, Germany, reports that the presidents of the War Board of German Industry, the Central Union of Manufacturers and the League of Manufacturers have been summoned to a conference at German Great Headquarters.

Would Cancel Steamer Rate  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Clyde Steamship Company to-day asked the Interstate Commerce Commission for authority to cancel second class and steerage passenger rates from New York to Southern and Southwestern ports, and the result of the proposed cancellation would be an increase in passenger fares.

Coast Ships Now Carry Mail  
SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 14.—Because of the congestion in railway transportation, the Postoffice Department has begun handling parcel post mail on coastwise steamships.

Big British Ship Sunk;  
84 Survivors Coming  
To an Atlantic Port

Knight of the Thistle, 6,675 Tons, Founders in Gale  
AN ATLANTIC PORT, Dec. 14.—The foundering at sea of the British steamer Knight of the Thistle was announced in a radio message received to-night from a steamer which reported she would land eighty-four survivors here to-morrow.

The message contained no details of the wreck or the rescue, but it was thought probable that the Knight of the Thistle went down during one of the series of gales that have swept the North Atlantic during the last week.

The Knight of the Thistle was of 6,675 tons gross, and was built in Glasgow in 1903. Her home port was Liverpool.

Orlando Thanks U. S.  
For Aid to Italy

According to a cable received last night from Rome by the "Bollettino della Sera," of this city, Premier Orlando opened Parliament yesterday with an address, in which he reviewed the military and political situation. He eulogized the bravery of Italian troops in halting the invaders and expressed Italy's gratitude to England and France for sending their armies to Italy's aid. He then proceeded to emphasize the increased difficulties in the food problem on account of lack of tonnage, warning that "the shortage of food and the high prices will not suddenly change even after the war, and the people must, therefore, see to it that production should increase and consumption decrease."

French War Writers  
Convinced U. S. Aid  
Will Win the War

Realize American Power, They  
Say, After Visit to Pershing's Troops

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 13.—A number of war correspondents of important French newspapers have visited the American troops and followed the lines of communication from the sea to the advanced camps. After interviewing General Pershing, who expressed his unalterable confidence in an Allied victory, the journalists summarized their impressions in the following statement:

"We have come to a striking realization of American power. We have the fullest confidence in the aid which America's army will render us, and we are more than ever convinced of victory. We have been struck particularly by the brotherhood-in-arms of Americans and Frenchmen, and nothing rejoices us more than the vigor, high spirits and enthusiasm of our allies from overseas."

U. S. Mission in Paris

Members Will Study Food  
Situation in France

PARIS, Dec. 14.—An American mission whose members will study the food situation in France preparatory to starting on lecture tours in the United States in connection with the food conservation movement has arrived in Paris. It is composed of Roscoe Mitchell, of Buffalo; J. T. Lord, of New York; Edward Trefz, of Chicago; the Rev. Julius Lincoln, of Jamestown, N. Y.; Daniel A. Reed, of Flint, Mich.; and Bainbridge Colby, of New York, who was a member of the American mission to the Inter-Allied Conference.

The members of the mission have conferred with representatives of the French government. They expect to remain here three weeks, and will visit American troops in training before returning to the United States.

Two Lost in Sinking  
Of U. S. Patrol Craft

Gunner and Seaman Drowned;  
Seven Others Rescued in  
Crash in Port

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Gunner Arthur B. Toeppe and Seaman Thomas J. Rose were drowned Wednesday in the sinking of a naval patrol vessel by a steamer at an Atlantic port. In announcing the death of the two men to-night the Navy Department gave no details, but it is known that seven other men aboard the patrol craft, including one officer, were rescued.

Toeppe's mother, Mrs. Mamie Toeppe, lives at 1215 Elgin Street, Oak Park, Ill., and Rose's father, Francis E. Rose, at 1414 Light Street, Baltimore.

The department to-night also confirmed unofficial reports that a small submarine chaser had been rammed and sunk off the Atlantic coast last Tuesday. The crew was saved.

Grain for Holland Gin  
Stopped by Government

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 14.—The 200 distilleries of Schiedam, which produce vast quantities of gin and other liquors, have been notified by the government's grain bureau, the "Telegraaf" reports, that after this week no more grain will be supplied for conversion into alcoholic products.

This means the paralysis of one of the industries for which Holland is best known abroad. Thousands of men will be thrown out of employment.

U-Boat Stops Spanish Ship  
PARIS, Dec. 14.—The Spanish steamship Prefidente, while steaming along the coast of Portugal was stopped by a German submarine, telegraphs the correspondent at Madrid of "L'Informateur." The officers of the U-boat made a half-hour inspection of the Spanish vessel, but left hurriedly when the submarine was menaced by the coast artillery.

British Balloon in Holland  
LONDON, Dec. 14.—Several news dispatches from Holland agree that the aircraft which descended in a Dutch village yesterday was not an airship, but a British army balloon, which is said to have drifted across the North Sea from England.

Italians Halt  
Teuton Efforts  
To Break Line

Despite Immense Losses  
Foe Fails to Gain, Except  
at Minor Point

Attack May Be Feint

Germans, It Is Believed, Are  
Trying to Divert Attention  
From Objective

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Shifting his blows from the lower Piave, von Below is now attacking the Italian lines between the Brenta and Piave rivers, scene of the desperate efforts to break through which preceded the drive in the Asiago region further west.

The Berlin official statement to-day minimized the importance of these operations, but Rome declared the Teutons strove to press forward yesterday. The supplementary report issued in Berlin to-night said that an Italian assault on Mount Pertica had failed, several hundred prisoners being taken by the Teutons.

Despite immense losses, the Italian official report says, the enemy failed to gain anywhere except at one point. North of the line of Monte Solarolo and the head of the Caledone Valley, the foe won "almost negligible ground."

"Violent artillery fire supported minor operations," is the Berlin version of the fighting.

Whether the struggle here is the beginning of a new drive or a diversion to distract Allied attention from some other part of the front the German General Staff has selected for the real attempt for a "break through" has not yet been revealed. It is possible the Teutons have not decided this, but are feeling out the defending line on a grand scale.

An official Austrian statement received here to-day reviews the recent victory of Field Marshal Conrad von Hotzendorf in the Meletta region, west of the Brenta. In four days, says the statement, 639 officers and more than 16,000 men were made prisoner.

In addition, the statement continues, 293 guns, 233 machine guns, four quick-firers, eighty-one mine throwers and much other material were seized.

The appearance of this review may indicate that Vienna considers the operation completed. At any rate, the progress of winter in the mountains will put a check to the continuance of the drive there.

Italians Repulse All  
Efforts of Austrians  
To Control Col Beretta

ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS IN NORTHERN ITALY, Thursday, Dec. 13.—The latest Austrian attacks around Col Beretta were made in force, the enemy infantry advancing repeatedly. The Italians temporarily were drawn back slightly at one point, but quickly regained most of their positions.

The battle for control of the strategic points on Col Beretta is persistent and desperate. The losses on both sides are heavy.

After three days of fighting on the mountain front between the Brenta and Piave rivers the enemy is holding some trenches on Col Beretta and the summit of Monte Spinozza, but all the rest of the Italian line is in its original position. This is the enemy's third successive attack with the object of breaking through to the plains.

Serbian King Hopes America  
Will Send Troops to Balkans

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—King Peter of Serbia has expressed a wish for American troops in the Balkans, according to a report of an interview with the monarch reaching here to-day, concluding which he said:

"My only wish as King of Serbia is to see all of my people—Serbs, Croats and Slovenes—freed from their oppressors and united in one state."

"I wonder if our plea will reach across to America, and if she will send troops to the Balkans?"

## Official Statements

West  
BRITISH

LONDON, Dec. 14 (DAY).—Our troops improved their position slightly east of Bullecourt as a result of the bomb fighting in that locality reported in last night's communiqué.

The enemy raided one of our posts last night south of Fromville. A few of our men are missing. On the remainder of the front there was nothing of special interest during the night.

(NIGHT).—There was local fighting this morning southeast of Polygon Wood, where shortly before dawn, the enemy attacked our positions in the neighborhood of Polderhoek Chateau. The attack was repulsed except at one point, where the enemy succeeded in entering our front line trench on a front of about 300 yards.

The hostile artillery developed great activity this afternoon east of Bullecourt. There also has been considerable artillery activity on both sides during the day between the Scarpe Valley and Gavrelle.

One German airplane was shot down by our infantry Wednesday. There is nothing of further special interest to report.

FRENCH

PARIS, Dec. 14 (DAY).—There were violent artillery actions in the region of Maisons de Champagne. East of the Scarpe and in Alsace, southeast of Cerny, we raided enemy trenches successfully.

Army of the East, Dec. 12.—In the Cerna bend and on the right bank of the river the enemy, after a bombardment of all our positions, carried out several local attacks, which failed. At certain places there were hand-to-hand encounters.

GERMAN

BERLIN, Dec. 14.—Army of Crown Prince Rupprecht.—In Flanders the artillery fighting was lively on only a few sectors.

East of Bullecourt the English endeavored to recapture trenches they had lost, but were beaten back with heavy casualties. Here and in our attack south of Fromville prisoners remained in our hands.

South of St. Quentin we caused heavy damage to the enemy by our violent surprise mine firing attacks.

Army of the German Crown Prince.—A reconnaissance northeast of Craonne resulted in the capture of prisoners.

Army of Duke Albrecht.—North of St. Mihiel, north and east of Nancy and at Hartmannsvillerkopf the French artillery activity increased.

Italian Front

GERMAN

BERLIN, Dec. 14.—At isolated points between the Brenta and the Piave there were violent artillery duels in support of minor operations.

(NIGHT).—An Italian attack against Monte Pertica failed, and some hundreds of prisoners remained in our hands.

Deaths Among  
Our Troops Abroad

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—General Pershing to-day reported to the War Department the following deaths from natural causes:

ANDERTON, George M., first lieutenant, engineer, December 6, on board United States transport, tubercular meningitis; Mrs. Judith Anderton, wife, Alexandria, Va.

JORDAN, Paul, sergeant, Quartermaster Corp., December 10, injuries resulting from a motorcycle accident; Grady Haley, uncle, Lavonia, Ga.

VARNER, Harold, private, marines, December 3, pneumonia; address not given.

BRAEHAERT, Jan Hendrik, able seaman, U. S. S. Berwind, December 11, lobar pneumonia; address not given.

CAPRON, Maurice L., private, Coast Artillery Corps, December 9, natural causes; Mrs. Bridget Riley, sister, general delivery, Nashua, Minn.

HARWOOD, Leroy P., corporal, pneumonia and meningitis; 9 Myrtle Street, Beverly, Mass.

FARNELL, Vert T., private, bronchopneumonia; 487 South Street, Quincy, Mass.

HUGHES, Richard B., private, pneumonia; 522 Thirteenth Street, Bowling Green, Ky.

MILLER, Ralph M., private, scarlet fever; Orient, Iowa.

CHEEKS, Wiley, private, killed by train; 140 Long Street, Girard, Ala.

SMITH, Millard, sergeant, gunshot wounds; Ranger, W. Va.

Portuguese Rebels to Send  
Ex-President From Country

LISBON, Dec. 14.—The newly established revolutionary government has decided to send former President Machado from the country by a special train. It was the determination of the government that the deposed President must live abroad until the expiration of the term for which he was elected.

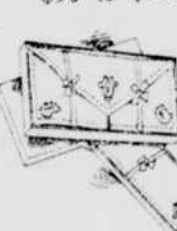
Major Norton De Mattos, who was Minister of War in the Costa Cabinet, has demanded a month's furlough, after which he wishes to be sent to the front.

The Stores Where Women  
Can Buy Practical and  
Useful Gifts for MenWeber and Heilbroner  
Holiday Gifts for Men  
Both Civilian and Military

This season it is specially desirable to select gifts for which men have actual and practical use. In no other stores in New York are the tastes and daily needs of men better understood. We make a special feature of assisting women in the selection of gift articles which will be most appreciated by their men friends and relatives. All these articles are moderately priced and represent the utmost in value.



Officers Trench Coat  
Waterproof Gabardine; Oiled  
Silk Interlining and Separate  
Fleece Shell, \$57.50  
Large Variety of Leather and  
Gabardine Trench Coats  
\$50 to \$110



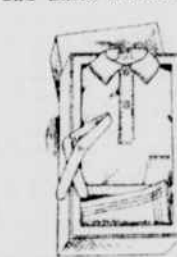
Fine Leather Belt  
With Sterling Silver Buckle  
(Space for Monogram)  
\$3 to \$5.50



Soldier's Sleeping Suit  
Domet Flannel Pajamas,  
Helmet and Boots, \$5.00



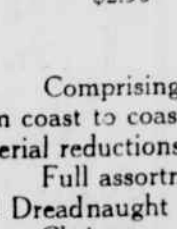
Khaki Military Toilet Case  
\$8.00  
Contains Hair, Shaving  
and Tooth Brushes,  
Comb, Tooth Paste,  
Soap, Darning Cotton,  
Bachelors Buttons, Ad-  
hesive Tape, Trench Mir-  
ror, Pencil, Wash Rag,  
and Extra Pockets.



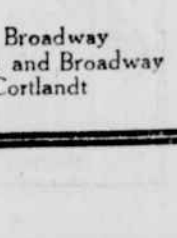
Soldier's Christmas Box  
Contains Regulation  
Army Shirt, O. D. Wool,  
4 Khaki Cross-Bar Hand-  
kerchiefs and Regulation  
Black Barathra Four-in-  
Hand \$5.75



Worsted Skull Caps  
For Motoring, Aviation and  
sleeping, \$1.00  
Wool Reefers, \$1.65 to \$2.50



Silk Dressing Gown  
Beautiful Brocade Pattern;  
With Slippers to Match, \$22.50  
Others, \$16.50 to \$85



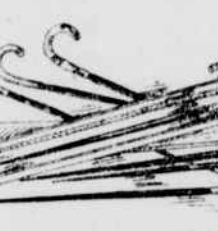
Khaki Travel Slippers in Case  
\$2.50



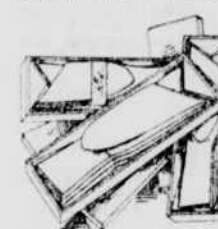
Nickel and Enamel Smoking Sets  
From 75 Cents for Single  
Pieces, to \$28.75 a Set



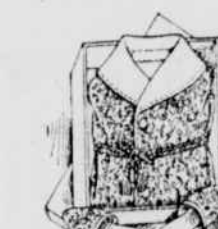
Reversible Leather and  
Gabardine Coat  
For motorists and officers, \$75



Fine Leather Belt  
With Sterling Silver Buckle  
(Space for Monogram)  
\$3 to \$5.50



Men's Taffeta Umbrellas  
Sterling Silver Trimmings, \$2.15  
Other Silk Umbrellas, up to  
\$12.00  
Combination Cane and Um-  
brella Set, \$6.50  
Canes, \$1.50 to \$12.00



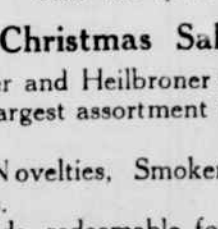
Natural All-Wool Hosiery  
65 Cents a Pair  
Full-fashioned Silk Thread  
Hose, with Lisle Soles,  
Heels and Uppers—12  
Different Colors,  
75c. a Pair



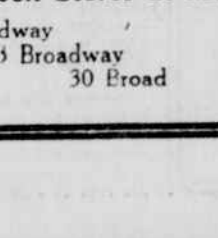
Silk Dressing Gown  
Beautiful Brocade Pattern;  
With Slippers to Match, \$22.50  
Others, \$16.50 to \$85



Khaki Travel Slippers in Case  
\$2.50



Soldier's Christmas Box  
Contains Regulation  
Army Shirt, O. D. Wool,  
4 Khaki Cross-Bar Hand-  
kerchiefs and Regulation  
Black Barathra Four-in-  
Hand \$5.75



Khaki Travel Slippers in Case  
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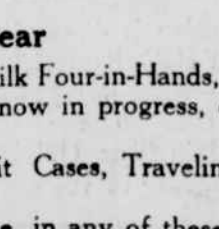
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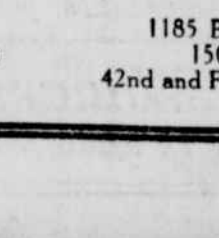
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\$2.50

## The Great Christmas Sale of Neckwear

Comprising the entire Weber and Heilbroner stock of Fancy Silk Four-in-Hands, known from coast to coast—probably the largest assortment in America—is now in progress, offering material reductions.

Full assortments of Leather Novelties, Smokers' Articles, Suit Cases, Traveling Bags and Dreadnaught Wardrobe Trunks.

Christmas Merchandise Bonds, redeemable for their face value in any of these stores, are sold in amounts from \$1 up—permitting the recipient to make his own selection of a gift.

## Eleven Stores in Manhattan

241 Broadway  
44th and Broadway  
20 Cortlandt

345 Broadway  
1365 Broadway  
30 Broad

775 Broadway  
58 Nassau

1185 Broadway  
150 Nassau  
42nd and Fifth Ave.